Statement-II

Import of edible Oil by NDDB

Year	Quantity (in MT)	Average Rate (in Rs. per MT)
1990-91	73658	15652
1991-92	20801	20095
1992-93	19421	21204
1993-94	1040	23462
1994-95	Details not available	

Cess on cotton

4019. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cess on cotton alongwith other commodities was abolished by an Act of Parliament in 1987 and that the collection of cess was discontinued thereafter;

(b) if so, the reasons for creating the post of Assistant Director (Cotton cess) in September, 1994 in the office of the Directorate of Cotton Development, Bombay; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute any inquiry into the circumstances necessitating the creating of the post; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such post was created in the Directorate of Cotton Development in September, 1994.

(c) Does not arise.

Study by NCAER on Economic Situation of Tobacco Workers

4020. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been commissioned through NCAER on the economic situation of tobacco workers and farmers in Karnataka;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposed legislation will be detrimental to the farming economy; and

(c) how will Government assess the outcome of its legislative proposals to restrict tobacco in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposed legislation by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare aims at curbing sale/consumption of tobacco in specific public places and ban tobacco advertisement keeping in view the likely health hazards to tobacco consumers. It does not intend to ban tobacco farming.

Nominal increase in the price of wheat

4021. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase of Rs. 10 in the price of wheat has been termed as 'Cruel Joke' by the farmers in view of hike in electricity charges and fertilizers prices;

(b) whether Government propose to provide them adequate increase in wheat price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) After taking into account the recommendations made by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries and other relevant factors, the Government has fixed the minimum support price of wheat at Rs. 360 per quintal for the marketing season 1995-96 which marked an increase of Rs. 10 per quintal over the minimum support price fixed for the last season. At present, there is no proposal under consideration to further increase the minimum support price of wheat for the marketing year 1995-96.

Kharland Development

4022. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which are the States which have undertaken the programme of Kharland development and the total land brought under cultivation State-wise;

(b) whether Government have given any special grant for development of Kharland to the States, if so, what is the total amount disbursed to the State of Maharashtra; and

(c) whether Government aids the States for maintenance of the bunding etc. which are constructed for preventing sea water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक

4023. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितने आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंकों के कालातीत ऋणों की पूर्ति करने हेतु उन्हें दीर्घावधि ऋण प्रदान करने के संबंध में प्रस्ताव उनके मंत्रालय को भेजा गया है और केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा क्या सहयोग प्रदान किया गया है ; और

(ख) ऐसे प्रस्तावों पर क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविंद नेताम) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंकों के कालातीत ऋणों की प्रतिपूर्ति करने के संबंध में कृषि मंत्रालय द्वारा कोई योजना कार्यान्वित नहीं की जा रही है। तथापि, मंत्रालय द्वारा गैर अतिदेय कवर हेतु केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंकों को वित्तीय सहायता देने संबंधी केन्द्र द्वारा प्रवर्तित एक योजना चलाई जा रही है। यह सहायता प्रत्येक केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंक को राष्ट्रीय कृषि एवं ग्रामीण विकास बैंक (नाबार्ड) द्वारा यथामूल्यांकित गैर अतिदेय कवर में हुए घाटे के आधार पर दी जाती है। वर्ष 1994-95 के दौरान गैर अतिदेय कवर सहायता के संबंध में कृषि मंत्रालय को 82 केन्द्रीय सहकारी बैंकों द्वारा प्रस्ताव भेजे गए हैं। प्राप्त राज्यवार प्रस्तावों तथा स्वीकृत धनराशि का विवरण संलग्न है।